

- ~~MR. HUSTON~~
1. Dr. Didsbury
 2. Mr. Morley Parry
 3. Mr. Perry

~~C.407~~

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AK.

RUNCORN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the year ending 31st December, 1967



URBAN DISTRICT AUTHORITY OF RUNCORN

ANNUAL REPORT

1967

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE REPORT OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Officials of the Public Health Department:

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. J. L. PATTERSON M.B. Ch.B. D.P.H. resigned 30th September, 1967

Dr. F. SEYMOUR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., appointed 1st December, 1967.

The present Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for Middlewich, Northwich and Winsford Urban and Northwich and Runcorn Rural District Councils and Divisional Medical Officer to the Mid-Cheshire and Runcorn Divisions.

Public Health Inspectors:

Chief: A. DUCKWORTH, M.A.P.H.I., R.S.H., Smoke Inspector's Diploma.

Deputy Chief: R. L. WILSON, M.A.P.H.I., R.S.H. Smoke Inspector's Diploma.
(Appointed 12th June, 1967).

Additional: W. P. MOSS, M.A.P.H.I., (resigned 18th June, 1967).

Additional: G. W. BATE, M.A.P.H.I., (resigned 28th February, 1967).

Additional: A. C. BARKER (appointed 21st August, 1967).

Student: D. WALSH.

Members of the Urban District Council of Runcorn

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor Mrs. M. B. SHERLOCK, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

Councillor G. H. DUTTON

Councillor Miss M. A. BLACK

- „ T. CLARE
- „ C. DAVIES
- „ G. DOBSON
- „ Dr. D. P. DUFFIELD
- „ W. T. A. FOSTER
- „ G. R. GRAY
- „ C. J. HELSBY
- „ C. S. HOWARD
- „ A. T. JAMESON
- „ L. JONES
- „ J. LOOKER
- „ A. MORRIS
- „ A. PARR
- „ P. J. POLLARD
- „ G. S. POVEY
(Chairman of Public Health Committee)
- „ Miss M. J. PREECE, M.B.E., B.A., C.C.
- „ S. C. ROSE
- „ F. R. SHERLIKER, A.R.I.C., M.R.S.H.
- „ F. E. WATSON
- „ S. WILLIAMS
- „ R. C. WOODS

Officers:

Clerk, Solicitor and Chief Executive Officer: T. J. LEWIS

Engineer and Surveyor: H. A. HUMPHERY, C.Eng., M.I.Mun.E.

Treasurer: C. N. GREEN

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INTRODUCTION

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Runcorn.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the environmental health and sanitary circumstances of the Council's district for the year 1967. As I only took up my appointment in December 1967, this report has been largely produced by Mr. Duckworth.

I wish to express my appreciation to Mr. Duckworth for the very considerable help he and the staff of the Public Health Department and the Council's Chief Officers have given me, in introducing me to the District.

The relatively high infant mortality rate as compared with 1966 has to be seen against the low rate for Still-Births. The Perinatal mortality rate which is a much more reliable index of mortality in early childhood is comparable with the national figure, although of course due to the relatively small population there will be variations in the local rate due to chance events.

Satisfactory progress is being made with the Smoke Control programme.

Yours obediently,

F. SEYMOUR,
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
RUNCORN.
Telephone: Runcorn 2261.

SECTION A—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

GENERAL INFORMATION

Area of Runcorn Urban District in Acres	8,036
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population for statistical purposes at 30th June, 1967	29,970
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population at 30th June, 1967	30,374
Density of Population (i.e. no. of persons per acre)	3.78
No. of inhabited houses (end 1967 according to the rate book)	10,137
Rateable value at 31st December, 1967	£1,507,617
Rateable value at 31st December, 1966	£1,357,803
Sum represented by 1d. rate (approx.) 31st December, 1967	£6,252

VITAL STATISTICS

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
LIVE BIRTHS....	573	284	289	
Rate per 1,000 population	19.1			
*Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Comparability Factor 0.99)	18.9			17.2
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS per cent of total live births	6.1			
STILL BIRTHS	4	1	3	
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	6.9			14.8
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS	577	285	292	
INFANT DEATHS (deaths under 1 yr.)	14	8	6	
DEATHS	325	182	143	
Death rate per 1,000 population	10.8			
*Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population (Comparability Factor 1.22)	13.2			11.2

**Note*—The corrected birth and death rates are those which are obtained when the crude local rates are adjusted to make allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales. The corrected rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales, and the corresponding adjusted rates for any other area.

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

	<i>England Total & Wales</i>	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	24.4	18.3
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	26.0	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	NIL	
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	20.9	12.5
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	19.2	10.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	26.0	25.4
Maternal Mortality (including abortion) Number of deaths)	NIL	

INFANT MORTALITY

Fourteen children died before reaching the age of 1 year, producing an infant mortality rate of 24.4 compared with 10.67 in the previous year.

COMPARISON RATES

Year	Popu- lation	Per 1,000 Population		Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births
		Death Rate	Live Birth Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate	Still Birth Rate
1957	25,660	9.19	17.80	21.78	23.40
1958	25,800	9.50	17.50	17.60	19.50
1959	26,020	9.65	16.80	36.61	33.20
1960	26,350	8.95	17.57	21.59	21.14
1961	26,035	10.76	18.76	16.32	18.03
1962	26,640	10.69	22.11	25.47	21.59
1963	26,930	10.28	19.68	22.64	25.73
1964	27,170	10.23	19.65	18.73	14.76
1965	27,480	9.90	19.94	18.25	19.68
1966	27,720	10.80	20.31	10.67	17.76
1967	29,970	10.84	19.18	24.40	6.93

Deaths, Infectious and Other Diseases, Statistics

1. CANCER DEATHS

During the year there were 65 deaths recorded from cancer as compared with 68 in 1966.

Details of Cancer Deaths over the past Five Years

Year	Site	1- 14	15- 44	45- 64	65- 74	75 and over	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation	Total all ages	
								M.	F.
1963	Stomach	—	—	2	3	2	2.00	5	2
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	—	7	4	—		11	—
	Other Sites	—	1	17	12	6		18	18
1964	Stomach	—	—	3	5	2	1.77	7	3
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	—	7	3	—		7	3
	Other Sites	—	4	11	6	7		13	15
1965	Stomach	—	—	7	—	4	1.78	8	3
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	—	3	1	1		5	—
	Other Sites	—	5	7	10	11		14	19
1966	Stomach	—	1	4	4	1	2.45	7	3
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	—	7	11	1		18	1
	Other Sites	—	2	19	8	10		12	27
1967	Stomach	—	—	2	7	1	2.16	4	6
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	1	6	7	—		14	—
	Other Sites	1	1	11	12	16		21	20

2. Infectious and Other Notifiable Diseases, 1967

Diseases

	1967	1966
Measles	304	394
Scarlet Fever	49	46
Whooping Cough	14	—
Dysentery	—	1

3. TUBERCULOSIS

Table indicating Notifications and Deaths from Tuberculosis over the last ten years.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis						
Year	Cases Notified			Deaths		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1958	5	—	5	1	1	2
1959	7	3	10	1	—	1
1960	2	—	2	1	—	1
1961	3	6	9	1	—	1
1962	7	2	9	—	—	—
1963	2	1	3	1	1	2
1964	2	1	3	1	—	1
1965	3	3	6	1	—	1
1966	3	—	3	—	—	—
1967	2	1	3	—	—	—

Number of cases removed from the Register during 1967

Reason for Removal	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Recovered	3	1
Left District	—	—
Totals	3	1

TOTAL DEATHS 1967

<i>Causes of Deaths</i>					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	....	....	....	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	....	....	....	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	....	....	....	2	—
4.	Diphtheria	....	....	....	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	....	....	....	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infections	....	....	....	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	....	....	....	—	—
8.	Measles	....	....	....	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	....	....	....	2	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	....	....	....	4	6
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	....	....	....	14	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	....	....	....	—	7
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	....	....	....	—	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	....	....	....	21	12
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	....	....	....	—	1
16.	Diabetes	....	....	....	—	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	....	....	....	21	22
18.	Coronary disease, angina	....	....	....	41	25
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	....	....	....	4	8
20.	Other heart disease	....	....	....	12	13
21.	Other circulatory disease	....	....	....	7	7
22.	Influenza	....	....	....	7	4
23.	Pneumonia	....	....	....	11	4
24.	Bronchitis	....	....	....	19	11
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	....	....	....	1	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	....	....	....	—	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	....	....	....	1	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	....	....	....	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	....	....	....	—	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	....	....	....	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	....	....	....	5	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	....	....	....	5	11
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	....	....	....	1	1
34.	All other accidents	....	....	....	2	4
35.	Suicide	....	....	....	1	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	....	....	....	—	—
Total					182	143

(Area Comparability Factors: Births 0.99; Deaths 1.22).

SECTION B

Sanitary Circumstances

1. **Water.** (I) The water supply consists of water from Lake Vyrnwy and the River Dee aqueducts of Liverpool Corporation with the exception of Moore, Sutton Weaver and a certain number of houses and farms which are supplied by Warrington Corporation and a number of farms which have a private supply.

The following tests were made by the Health Department: three samples of Vyrnwy water and three samples of Dee water.

The Runcorn District Water Board took the following samples: six samples of Vyrnwy water, thirteen samples of Dee water and two samples of mixed.

The Report of the Analyst is: The condition of the water is satisfactory.

(II) Ministry of Health Circular 4/51 requires the following information regarding water supplies in the area:—

- (i) Whether the water of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory.
 - (a) In quality Yes
 - (b) In quantity Yes
- (ii) Where there is a piped supply whether bacteriological examinations were made of (i) the raw water and (ii) where treatment is installed, of water going into supply; if so
 - (a) How many? Yes (i) 0, (ii) 27.
 - (b) The result obtained. Number of coliform organisms per 100 mls. Satisfactory
 - (c) The results of any chemical analysis Satisfactory
- (iii) Where the waters are liable to have plumbo solvent action the facts as to contamination by lead, including precautions taken and number and results of analyses:—

Report of the Analyst does not indicate plumbo solvent action in any of the testings made.
- (iv) Action in respect of any form of contamination—None.
- (v) Particulars of the numbers of dwellinghouses and the number of the population supplied from public water mains:—

				<i>Houses</i>	<i>Popu- lation</i>
(a) Direct to the houses	....	....	....	10,137	30,374
(b) By means of stand pipes	....	....	....	Nil	Nil

2. **Drainage and Sewage.** Comments have been made in past years about the unsatisfactory discharge of untreated sewage into the River Mersey and the chance to re-design the sewerage system of the old parts of the town in conjunction with the lay-out of the sewerage system

for the New Town. Some progress has been made and the length of trunk sewer from the Highfield Works to the new sewage works at Astmoor has been laid and for which the Council will pay a contribution for a larger sewer for their future requirements. When the new sewage works is opened in 1969 the foul sewage of the New Town housing and industrial estates will be treated thereat and plans are being made for the Council's own system to be connected at an early date.

3. Public Cleansing. The maintenance of a regular weekly refuse collection throughout the area becomes more and more difficult due to the inability to recruit suitable labour and the high rates of sickness and absenteeism. With an establishment of 20 refuse collectors there was a turnover of 48 men during the year. The paper-sack system of collection which is cleaner and less arduous for the collectors still offers the best system for the future and although the operating costs are higher, these are offset by the advantages. The paper-sack system is operating satisfactorily on all the new houses of the Development Corporation and this system is to be extended to all its future houses. Plastic sacks are now being used in preference to paper sacks as they are cheaper and when used in large quantities show a significant saving in cost over a year.

The extra houses taken over on the 1st April, 1967 with the extension of the boundaries have been included in a new refuse collection round and a new vehicle purchased. The new round will be built up to include most of the immediate new housing of the Development Corporation and can cope adequately with immediate needs.

4. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Inspections made for all purposes	.....	4,559
Nuisances dealt with	.....	101
Notices served (informal)	.....	58

Public Health Act, 1936—Record of Nuisances, 1967

Number of complaints in respect of dwellings	.....	91
Number of Preliminary Notices served (embracing 101 nuisances)	.....	58
Number of Preliminary Notices complied with without resorting to Statutory Notices (embracing 56 nuisances)	.....	35
Number of Statutory Notices served as authorised by the Council (embracing 38 nuisances)	.....	26
Number of Statutory Notices complied with (embracing 29 nuisances)	.....	21
Number of Statutory Notices outstanding from 1966 complied with in 1967 (embracing 10 nuisances)	.....	3
Number of Legal Proceedings instituted for failure to comply with Statutory Notice	.....	1
Number of Statutory Notices complied with by Runcorn Urban District Council in default	.....	2

Rent Act, 1957—Record of Certificate of Disrepair

During 1967 there were no applications for a Certificate of Disrepair nor any applications for cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair from landlords.

Summary of Visits and Inspections

Unsound Food	....	....	....	....	44
Cafes, Canteens, etc.	....	....	....	....	33
Food Factories	....	....	....	....	12
Market Stalls	....	....	....	....	56
Food Shops	....	....	....	....	39
Food Vehicles	....	....	....	....	8
Domestic Water Samples	....	....	....	....	6
Swimming Bath Water Samples	....	....	....	....	14
Ice-Cream and Lollies Samples	....	....	....	....	27
Animal Boarding Establishments....	....	....	....	....	1
Caravans	....	....	....	....	18
Complaints	....	....	....	....	131
Demolition of Property	....	....	....	....	27
Disinfections	....	....	....	....	1
Drainage	....	....	....	....	220
Factories Using Mechanical Power	....	....	....	....	13
Factory Outworkers' Premises	....	....	....	....	2
Building Operations and Works of Engineering					
Construction	....	....	....	....	3
Hairdressers	....	....	....	....	6
House Inspections	....	....	....	....	441
Infectious Disease Surveillance	....	....	....	....	2
Interviews	....	....	....	....	175
Miscellaneous	....	....	....	....	430
Noise Abatement	....	....	....	....	112
Nuisance Abatement	....	....	....	....	60
Offices and Shops	....	....	....	....	125
Pet Shops	....	....	....	....	1
Petroleum Acts	....	....	....	....	23
Places of Public Entertainment	....	....	....	....	15
Public Conveniences	....	....	....	....	97
Scrap Metal Dealers	....	....	....	....	2
Smoke Nuisance Abatement	....	....	....	....	71
Smoke Control Areas	....	....	....	....	839
Air Pollution Survey	....	....	....	....	322
Swimming Baths	....	....	....	....	5
Refuse Collection and Disposal	....	....	....	....	757
Rodent Control	....	....	....	....	175
Vacant Sites	....	....	....	....	7
Vermin and Insect Pests	....	....	....	....	42
Administration	....	....	....	....	197
TOTAL	....	....	....	....	4,559

~~Summary of Inspections and Visits~~

5. Clean Air Act, 1956

SECTION 1—PROHIBITION OF DARK SMOKE FROM CHIMNEYS

During September, contravention of The Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations 1958 were observed from one industrial premises, and the matter taken up with the firm concerned. The firm have a service agreement with The National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service from whom they sought advice and the National Coal Board were also consulted on the supply of suitable fuel for the mechanical underfeed stoker in use. Investigation and observations were continuing at the end of the year.

SECTION 3.—REQUIREMENT THAT NEW FURNACES SHALL BE SO FAR AS PRACTICABLE SMOKELESS.

Twelve notifications of proposal to install new furnaces received during the year indicated that the furnaces were designed to operate continuously without emitting smoke as far as practicable. All were operating satisfactorily when installed.

SECTION 10—HEIGHT OF CHIMNEYS

Seven plans deposited with the Council for approval under the Building Regulations, 1965 showed the proposed construction of new chimneys. In one case an increase in height was found necessary having regard to all the factors involved.

Proposals for the erection of two chimneys attached to schools outside the control of The Building Regulations were forwarded to the Department for scrutiny and the heights of both were found to be adequate.

A revised edition of the Ministry Memorandum on chimney heights was received in November. The memorandum has the effect of reducing the required chimney height of very small installations in the light of experience since the original Memorandum was published in 1963.

SECTION 11—SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

The No. 3 Smoke Control Area, containing 777 dwellings within the area bounded by Norman Road, Ivy Street and Heath Road, became operative on 1st October. It is interesting to note that of the 835 fireplaces converted in private houses, 60 per cent were to gas, 35.3 per cent to solid fuel, 3.7 per cent off-peak electricity and 1 per cent oil.

Representations to British Rail London Midland Region about smoke from locomotives on the line adjacent to Norman Road, on the boundary of Nos. 2 and 3 Areas, where there is a severe gradient to the top of the cutting, resulted in a reminder to drivers to keep smoke to the absolute minimum and spot checks by Locomotive Inspectors. Constant attention to the problem was assured pending the complete substitution of steam locomotives by diesels, which is likely towards the end of 1968.

Approximately 32 per cent of the premises in the Urban District are now within Smoke Control Areas, and a report on the proposed No. 4 Area containing 871 dwellings was submitted to the Public Health Committee in November. It was resolved to make the Order and a report on the proposed No. 5 Area was requested.

It is gratifying to note that the Council is giving smoke control the priority it deserves when one considers that over 80 per cent of the smoke at low level comes from house chimneys. The remainder is from industry, commercial premises, railways and road vehicles. The graph illustrates the high figure of smoke especially at the Public Library in the winter months when fogs are most likely and indicates the source as domestic chimneys in a high density area discharging smoke at a low level.

20 householders in existing Areas were warned during the year about burning coal, and further action was not found necessary.

Supplies of coal were being obtained from two local coal merchants and two from outside the district, out of a total of 18 merchants known to be supplying solid fuel in the town. The North Western Regional Panel of the Approved Coal Merchants Scheme, the Cheshire Federation of Coal Merchants Associations and the National Coal Board assisted in terminating these supplies in the absence of legislation prohibiting the sale of coal in Smoke Control Areas.

One householder in the No. 3 Area was found to be burning coal in December and was advised of the solid smokeless fuels available for his appliance.

The Investigation of Air Pollution

5 volumetric smoke and sulphur dioxide machines were in operation at the end of the year, two 8-day machines having been acquired at Halton and Norton from the Rural District Council in April. Another 8-day machine was installed at Rocksavage Grange in August, and the daily machine at the Library was replaced by an 8-day machine in September, thus obviating the necessity for daily visits to change the smoke filter paper and gas-washing bottle.

The graph on page 17 illustrates the continuing reduction in smoke at the Town Hall over the last three years, conversions to smokeless fuels in the adjoining No. 3 Area having taken place during 1966 and 1967.

Dust Nuisance—Weston

The No. 1 Carbide Plant at Weston has been a source of dust complaint for many years to the adjoining residents. The plant which is outdated and due for closure in the near future when more modern plant is in operation was the subject of many complaints but as a result of the joint efforts of the Alkali Inspector, the Weston Action Committee, the Council and the industry concerned a new bag filter was installed which has reduced the emission of dust considerably. This complaint emphasises the difficulties of operating old plant which has become outdated but it is still necessary to operate. Modifications to improve the plant are not always practical or economic. All plans for new installations where applicable are approved by the Alkali Inspector with the result that the highest standards for dust and gas cleaning can be insisted upon.

6. Noise Nuisance

A considerable amount of time has been spent by Inspectors dealing with complaints of excessive noise from the I.C.I. B.A.S.F. plant at Weston. The source of the complaint was the commissioning of the new plant and in the early stages in 1966 excessive noise was due to machinery plant and flaring of waste gas from the flare stack. After several shut-downs of the plant, improvements were carried out by way of insulation of plant machinery, erection of barrier walls and the offer of double glazing to the houses of affected residents. Gradual improvements were made towards the suppression of plant noise but during the year complaints were still received of noise from the flaring of the stack when the plant was being restarted and continued on occasions for several days. When the plant was working satisfactorily the flaring was reduced and consequently the noise reduced for long periods, but after shut-down and modification to the plant the noise recurred while the plant was restarted but the period of smooth running of the plant became longer and it is hoped that this improvement can be maintained. Many sound level readings were taken over the year at various times of the day and at night and in the main were within the criteria laid down in the British Standard for Method of Rating Industrial Noise. Complaints were still received which emphasises the subjective nature of noise complaints.

The experience drawn from this noise complaint emphasises the need for some planning control of new industries likely to give rise to noise nuisance by specifying a maximum sound level reading on the boundary of the works which manufacturers of machinery must comply with. It is quite apparent that much more research needs to be carried out by machinery manufacturers into noise insulation and suppression.

MEASUREMENT OF SUSPENDED SMOKE PARTICLES

400

300

200

100

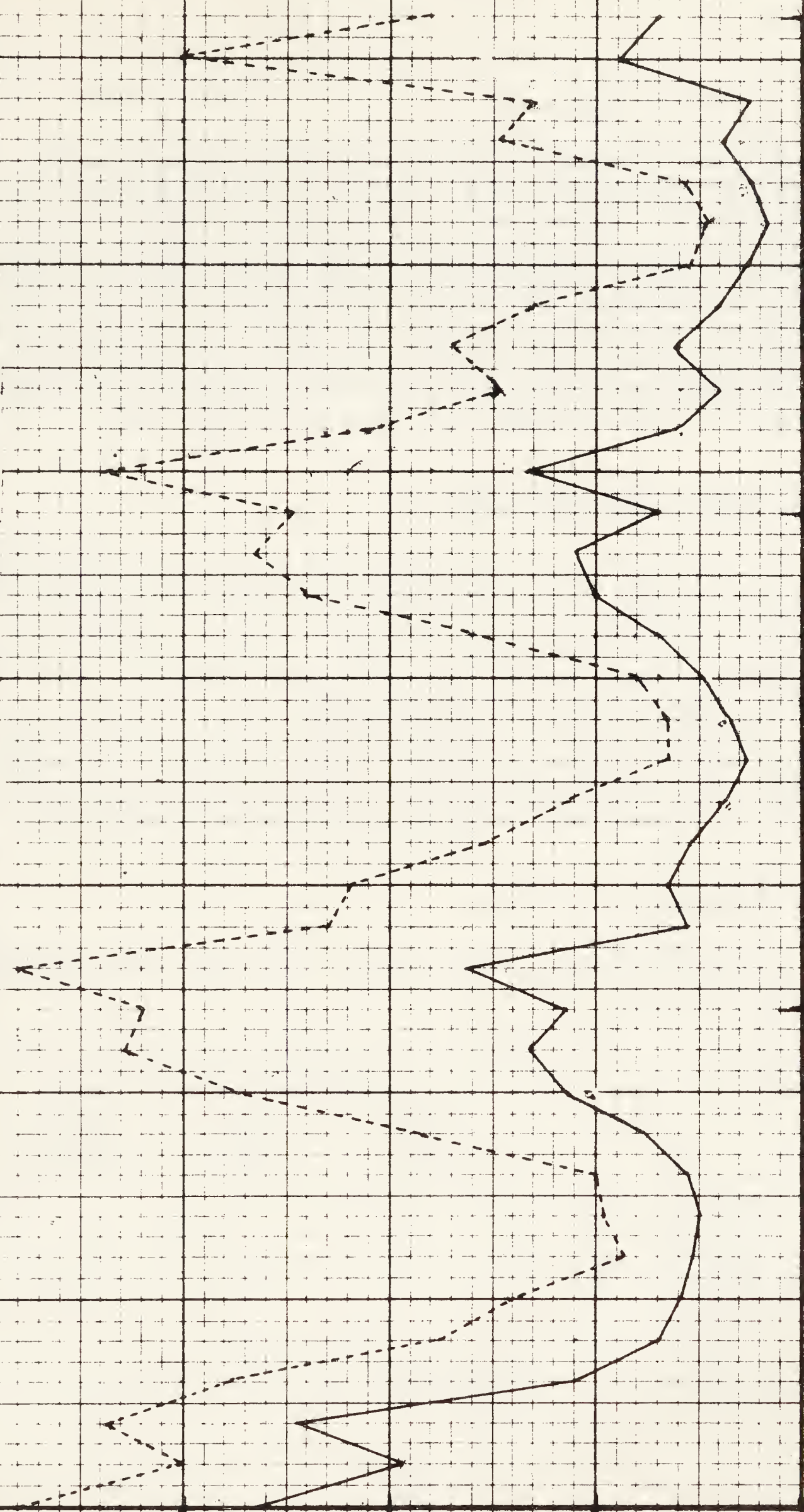
SMOKE (MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE)

1965

1966

1967

----- PUBLIC LIBRARY (HIGH DENSITY HOUSING) — TOWN HALL (SMOKE CONTROL AREA)



7. New Development

46 of the plans deposited with the Council for Building Regulations approval contained proposals of interest to the Department. These included new premises and extensions and alterations to existing premises comprising catering premises, shops, factories, offices, housing, petroleum storage and a variety of other premises. Where necessary, architects were advised of the requirements of relevant legislation so that their proposals would comply with that legislation or completion. This procedure obviates the situation where occupiers are faced with further alterations or additions to new premises to comply with the appropriate health, safety and welfare requirements.

8. Public Swimming Baths

The Urban District Council maintains a Public Swimming Bath which is supplied with water from the Town's mains and passed through a filtration plant charged with chlorine. It is tested for its purity and chlorine content periodically during the season, and its physical characteristics are satisfactory. Daily checks are made for chlorine content by the Baths Superintendent.

Four chemical and ten bacteriological samples of Bath's water were submitted for analysis and the Analyst reported on all samples that—"The condition of the bath is satisfactory" with the exception of two samples of outlet water which were reported unsatisfactory.

9. Eradication of Vermin

The following particulars are given of action taken for the eradication of vermin:—

	<i>Infested and Disinfested</i>		
	<i>No. of Council Houses</i>	<i>No. of other Houses</i>	<i>No. of Business Premises</i>
Ants	9	3	—
Beetles	1	—	—
Bed Bugs	4	5	—
Cockroaches	3	7	1
Fleas	—	2	1
Wasp Nests	—	3	—
TOTAL	17	20	2

10. Rodent Control

670 inspections of premises were made during the year resulting in the treatment of 508 rat infestations and 110 mice infestations.

Approximately 10 per cent of the manholes in the sewerage system were test-baited with Warfarin poison during July, and baits were taken at 36 manholes, mainly in the Dukesfield and central areas. A follow-up treatment using the acute poison sodium fluoracetamide was carried out by a contractor on 100 manholes, comprising the 36 infested manholes and the manholes adjacent in every direction to those infested. It is proposed to carry out a second follow-up treatment in March.

SECTION C

1. HOUSING

Number of inhabited houses in the Urban District, 31st						
December, 1967	....	....	....	....	....	10,137
Density of houses (number of houses per acre)	....	....	....	....	....	1.26
Number of houses (new) erected during 1967:						
(a) by Local Authority	....	....	....	....	....	56
(b) by other bodies (including Runcorn Development Corporation)	....	....	....	....	....	133
Number of houses owned by Local Authority:—						
Permanent	....	....	....	....	....	2,813
Prefabricated	....	....	....	....	....	52
General Fund	....	....	....	....	....	14

2. Unfit Houses Clearance Programme—Housing Act, 1957

During the year 33 families, comprising 86 persons were rehoused by the Council from property dealt with as unfit. 26 houses were demolished and 1 closed during the year.

Orders were made during the year in respect of 51 unfit houses which were dealt with in the following manner:—

(a) by compulsory purchase orders	....	....	....	45
(b) by clearance orders	....	....	....	NIL
(c) individual unfit houses	....	....	....	6

Confirmation was awaited at the end of the year from the Ministry in respect of the 45 houses included in Compulsory Purchase Orders due to objections to two of the Orders.

The number of housing inspections and revisits carried out in the year was 441.

Since the slum clearance programme was resumed after the war 777 houses (including 28 pre-fabs.) have been dealt with as unfit houses by way of compulsory purchase orders, clearance orders and individual unfit houses, 45 of which were still awaiting re-housing at the end of the year.

The 1966/1970 five-year clearance programme which provisionally comprises 478 houses is falling behind schedule due to the halt in the Council's building programme.

3. Improvement of Houses

During the year, 21 Standard Grants and 2 Discretionary Grants have been made to owners for the provision of amenities to structurally sound houses. The rate of improvement of older fit houses by the provision of the five amenities, i.e. bath, indoor water-closet, wash-hand basin, hot-water supply and ventilated food store is still very slow, the number of grants made being the lowest since the commencement of improvement grants in 1958.

No representations were received from tenants with a view to the compulsory improvement of otherwise fit houses.

It is difficult to see how area improvement with its present cumbersome procedure can succeed when there are no powers to compel the improvement of all the houses in the area. Owner-occupiers cannot be compelled to improve and may never be persuaded, while the improvement of tenanted houses can take five years or more before the work is completed.

Some indication of the lines of Government thinking on possible future changes in housing improvement grants was given by a Ministry Official who, in parliamentary reports, was quoted as saying that the 15 years life which it is argued is necessary for these grants should be reduced to either ten or seven years.

SECTION D

Inspection and Supervision of Food

1. (a) Milk Supply

There are fifteen dairy farms in the area of the Urban District, which are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

One dairy in the area is licensed for the Pasteurisation of milk by the High Temperature Short-Time System.

(b) Milk Sampling

The following table indicates the Reports of the Analyst of samples taken by the County Council in the Urban District during the year 1967.

<i>Class of Milk</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Appropriate Tests</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	
			<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>
Sterilised	75	Turbidity	75	—
Pasteurised	75	Phosphatase	75	—
		Methylene Blue ...	73	2
Untreated	9	Methylene Blue	7	2

2. The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 and 1965

All dealers' licences under the above Regulations are issued by the Cheshire County Council, the Food and Drugs Authority for the area.

3. Ice Cream Samples

Twenty samples of ice-cream, ten samples of ice-cream mix and five samples of ice lollies were submitted to the Analyst for report; and the table herewith gives the results of the same:

<i>Type of Sample</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>GRADES</i>			
		1	2	3	4
Ice Cream	20	17	2	1	—
Ice Cream Mix	10	10	—	—	—
Ice Lollies	5	Satisfactory			

A subsequent sample of the Grade 3 Ice-Cream proved to be satisfactory.

There are 72 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream and 1 for the manufacture of ice-cream.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

SECTIONS 16 and 19

1. (a)

<i>Type of Premises</i>	<i>No. in Area</i>	<i>Section 16 No. fitted with wash- hand basins</i>	<i>Section 19 No. fitted with sinks</i>
Grocery	75	71	67
Greengrocery	15	12	13
Butchers	25	25	25
Fried Fish	14	14	14
Catering Establishments ...	20	20	20
Licensed Premises	55	55	52
Bakers and Confectioners ..	14	14	14
Sugar Confectioners	20	20	—
Food Factories	2	2	2

(b) Inspection of Food Premises

148 visits and inspections have been made to food premises and food vehicles and 12 notices under the Food Hygiene Regulations served in respect of re-decoration of premises, provision of hand-washing facilities, renewal of worn equipment, structural repairs, protection of open food and provision of First Aid Materials.

(c)

No prosecutions were instituted under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Unsound Food:

The undermentioned articles of food were found to be unfit for human consumption and surrendered:

Meat at Retail Shops	229 lbs.
Cooked Meat and Meat Products	113 lbs.
Canned Meats	440 lbs.
Other Canned Products	215 lbs.
Fruit and Vegetables	5 lbs.
Other Foods	336 lbs.

List of Samples obtained in the RUNCORN URBAN DISTRICT

during the year ended 31st December, 1967

The County Council Weights and Measurers Inspector took 139 samples of varied articles of food in the Runcorn Urban District during the year. The following is a list of samples not up to standard and particulars of food complaints from private purchasers.

Particulars of Food Complaints from Private Purchasers

<i>No.</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1.	C.C.C. School	Foil caps in bottle of school milk.	No action.
2.	C.C.C. School	Used drinking straws in bottle of school milk	Bottlers cautioned.
3.	Housewife	Packet of soft cheese contaminated with mould.	Seller cautioned.
4.	C.C.C. School	Egg found to be broken and decomposed.	Seller cautioned.
5.	C.C.C. School	Glass in milk.	Bottlers cautioned.
6.	C.C.C. School	Glass in milk.	Bottlers cautioned.
7.	Housewife	Fly in tinned strawberries.	Seller cautioned.
8.	C.C.C. School	Milk containing metal foil and piece of paper.	Bottlers fined £25. Costs £6 1s. 1d.
9.	Housewife	Glass in tinned salmon	No action.
10.	C.C.C. School	Bad tasting milk.	No evidence of unsatisfactory taste.
11.	C.C.C. Canteen.	Meat containing piece of animal gut and animal dung.	Fined £50. Costs £16 5s. 3d.
12.	C.C.C. Canteen	Meat (shoulder-steak) containing tissue resembling gut and foreign matter having the characteristics of animal dung.	Case withdrawn.
13.	C.C.C. Canteen	Meat containing animal dung	Fined £50. Costs £4 14s.

Particulars of Samples not up to standard

<i>No.</i>	<i>Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
14.	Milk (Pasteurised)	Sub-standard but genuine 1.1% deficient in solids not fat.	Genuine sample.
15.	Milk	Containing metal foil and piece of paper	Bottlers fined £25. Costs £6 1s. 1d.
16.	Full Fat Soft Cheese	Badly discoloured with mould spores and mycelium.	Seller cautioned.

SECTION E

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

1. General

15 new premises were registered during the year, bringing the total of the number of premises registered to 289 which employ 2,414 males and 1,541 females.

During the year 61 premises received General Inspections, and 113 visits were made to registered premises and 43 occupiers were notified of a total number of 169 contraventions.

Only a comparatively small number of premises were extensively at variance with the Act and the contraventions most frequently found related to sanitary conveniences, safety aspects of floors, passages and stairs, first-aid provisions and washing facilities.

One of the difficulties met with is the problem of shops in the older parts of the town which are likely to be affected by the Urban Renewal Scheme. It is only natural that occupiers are unwilling to carry out extensive alterations to premises to comply with the Act but there is no difficulty in complying with the basic requirements of the Act which are being insisted on.

2. Accidents

Certain Sections of the Act are designed to prevent accidents to employees in Offices and Shops and during the year 15 accidents, none of them fatal, occurred in registered premises. 8 were due to falls of persons and 2 to machinery which, by reason of the inadequately protected nature of parts constituted infringements of Section 17 of the Act. An electric mincing machine which had previously suffered damage to the worm barrel leaving a hole in the base was responsible for one of these accidents when the employee inserted a finger into the hole and was fortunate not to have his finger amputated by the revolving worm. In the second incident a male employee sliced the palm of his right hand while using an electrically operated Gravity Feed Food Slicing Machine. As a result of action taken by the Department the shopkeeper equipped his shop with a new machine of the same manufacture having been assured by the supplier that modifications could not be carried out to the old model and that the new model was in full compliance with the Act. However on re-inspection it was found that the new machine

did not fully comply with the Act and therefore the matter was referred to the Liaison Officer of H.M. Factory Inspectorate who is responsible for these matters. The matter was pursued by H.M. Factory Inspectorate with the manufacturer asking him to produce machines that complied in every respect with the Act. The fact that they have no powers to enforce such requirements on manufacturers shows a weakness of the legislation and needs urgent modification. Although model recommendations are made they have no legal backing. Since this occurrence other machines of the same manufacture have been found in shops in the district and there is little that can be done to remove the danger they pose to employees.

The Minister of Labour's Report on the Act for 1966 shows that 38.2 per cent of all accidents involving machinery were caused by Food Slicing Machines.

One other comment on the Act which warrants attention is that very few complaints are made by employees about the working conditions in Offices and Shops. Only one complaint in respect of insufficient heating was received by this Department from one employee during the year.

Annex attached to report:

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1967 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT
OF RUNCORN IN THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE**

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspec- tions</i> (3)	<i>Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	—	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	80	13	—	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	5	5	—	—
TOTAL	91	18	—	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temp'ature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)....	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffect. drainage floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences: (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

<i>Nature of Work</i> (1)	<i>Section 133</i>			<i>Section 134</i>		
	<i>No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)</i>	<i>Notices Served (6)</i>	<i>Prose- cutions (7)</i>
Curtains and furniture hanging	3	—	—	—	—	—

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1967

May, 1968

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

28 Halton Road,
RUNCORN

INTRODUCTION

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Runcorn Divisional Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As I only took up my appointment on October 1st this report has, of necessity, to be interim in nature.

The decision to extend my area to cover Runcorn in addition to mid-Cheshire reflects a changing policy, by which the Divisional Medical Officers will be relieved of routine administrative duties, and enabled to devote more time to medical administration and the development of a community health programme. Given this change in policy it is possible to adequately cope with two Divisions with the assurance that in the event of any serious emergency, assistance will be available from the County Council's medical staff.

The plans for the development of Health Centres, Polyclinic and District Hospital in the New Town hold exciting possibilities for the future development of a closely integrated health team serving the community. I look forward in 1968 to progress being made in bringing together into a single team the various members of the County Health Department operating at Divisional level, a very necessary pre-requisite to the above.

I could not close this foreword without expressing my personal appreciation of the invaluable assistance Mr. Lewis and Mr. Bridges and his staff have given me since my appointment.

Finally, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I thank you for your support and interest.

I am,

Yours obediently,

F. SEYMOUR,

Divisional Medical Officer

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RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

LIST OF MEMBERS—1967/68

Chairman:

Councillor P. MOUNFIELD

Deputy Chairman:

Councillor Mrs. M. B. SHERLOCK

Representing the County Council:

County Alderman Sir GEORGE ASTBURY, West Wind, Strawberry Roundabout, Backford, nr. Chester.

County Councillor A. RICHARDSON, Bradshaw Hall Farm, Cheadle, Cheshire.

County Alderman H. MANN, 25 Park Road, Runcorn.

County Alderman A. E. MOORS, Thornlea, Station Lane, Mickle Trafford, Chester.

County Councillor Miss M. J. PREECE, M.B.E., 202 Halton Road, Runcorn.

County Councillor R. F. PAYTON, Park House, 177 London Road, Appleton, Warrington.

County Councillor G. J. FORD, Manley Hall Farm, Manley, Warrington.

Representatives of Runcorn Rural District Council:

Councillor Mrs. M. BATE, Levens, York Drive, Grappenhall, Warrington.

Councillor F. COOPER, Sunny Hurst, Kingsley, Warrington.

Councillor W. EVANS, Oaklands, Primrose Lane, Alvanley, Warrington.

Councillor W. FOWLES, Dairy Farm, Newton Lane, Preston Brook, Warrington.

Councillor Mrs. J. C. JENKINS, 58 Grappenhall Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington.

Councillor J. F. JENKINS, 58 Grappenhall Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington.

Councillor P. MOUNFIELD, 342 London Road, Appleton, Warrington.

Councillor Mrs. D. M. SMITH, Thornhill, Fluin Lane, Frodsham, Warrington.

Councillor S. WILLIAMS, Netherton Farm, Netherton, Frodsham, Warrington.

Representatives of Runcorn Urban District Council:

Councillor C. DAVIES, 1 Mersey View, Weston Point, Runcorn.

Councillor W. T. A. FOSTER, 5 Six Acre Lane, Moore, Warrington.

Councillor A. T. JAMESON, 24 Riley Drive, Runcorn.

Councillor L. JONES, 79 Moughland Lane, Runcorn.

Councillor A. PARR, 30 Albert Street Runcorn.

Councillor Mrs. M. B. SHERLOCK, 44 Moughland Lane, Runcorn.

Councillor S. WILLIAMS, 83 Boston Avenue, Runcorn.

Co-opted Members:

Dr. E. R. CARTER, 86 Moughland Lane, Runcorn (Local Medical Committee).

Miss T. E. DUDLEY, 1 Weston Road, Runcorn (Nursing Aid Charities).

Councillor W. H. STUBBS, Thornhill, Fluin Lane, Frodsham, Warrington. (Hospital Management Committee).

Mr. A. WOOD 3 Kenilworth Avenue Runcorn (Education).

Mrs. J. C. TURNER 20 Holmfield Avenue Runcorn (Old Peoples' Welfare Committee).

Mr. H. GOODALL, 85 Stenhills Crescent, Runcorn.

Mr. J. HUNT, Mount Pleasant, Top Lane, Kingsley.

Mrs. E. A. ROYLE, 8 Weston Crescent, Runcorn.

Mrs. E. A. M. TOMLINSON, Edeyrn, 73 Victoria Road, Runcorn.

Clerk to the Divisional Committee—Mr. T. J. LEWIS, Solicitor,
Town Hall, RUNCORN.

STAFF OF THE DIVISIONAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Divisional Medical Officer—Dr. J. L. Patterson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. to 30th September, 1967.

Divisional Medical Officer from 1.10.67—Dr. F. Seymour M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Divisional Administrative Assistant—Mr. H. Bridges.

Domestic Help Supervisors—Mrs. D. M. Shepherd; Mrs. H. Walker.

Part-time Nurse: —Mrs. C. Hayes.

Part-time Occupational Therapist—Mrs. C. M. Stevens.

DAY NURSERY, RUNCORN

Matron—Mrs. M. Jones, S.R.N.

Divisional Medical Officer—Tel. No. Runcorn 2871/2 and 2449.

Day Nursery, Okell Street, Runcorn—Tel. No. Runcorn 2461.

Adult Training Centre, David Street, Northwich—Tel. No. Northwich 5100

Junior Training Centre, David Street, Northwich—Tel. No. Northwich 4398

DISTRICT NURSE/MIDWIVES

Daresbury	Mrs. J. M. Cunningham, Delph Cottage, Daresbury, Warrington	Moore 266
Frodsham	Mrs. A. V. Burke, 10 Kingsway, Frodsham, Warrington	Frodsham 2109
	Miss G. H. Langrell, 19 Clifton Crescent, Frodsham	Frodsham 2235
	Mrs. C. L. Ormsby, 10 Fountain Lane, Frodsham	Frodsham 2027
Grappenhall	*Mrs. M. Rhodes, 27 St. Wilfred's Drive, Grappenhall, Warrington	Warrington 64176
Great Budworth	Mrs. E. Burgess, Dunkerry, Gibb Hill, Antrobus, Northwich	Comberbach 400
Halton	Mrs. F. R. Beesley, 47 Main Street, Halton, Runcorn	Runcorn 2597
Helsby	Mrs. N. E. Stewart, Thorns, Alvanley Road, Helsby, Warrington	Helsby 2143
Runcorn	*Mrs. F. Fowles, 36 Oxford Road, Runcorn.	Runcorn 2849
	*Mrs. A. A. Marsh, 27 Perrin Avenue, Weston Point, Runcorn.	Runcorn 3730
	*Mrs. J. Livesey, "Wivenhoe" Clifton Road, Runcorn	Runcorn 3260
	*Mr. J. C. Cheetham, 8 Cynthia Road, Runcorn.	Runcorn 3137

Stockton Heath	*Miss W. Maher, 44 Whitfield Avenue, Bruche, Warrington.	Warrington 31701
	*Miss V. E. O'Donnell, 104 Fairfield Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington.	Warrington 64562
	*Mrs. O. Holbrook, 86 Grappenhall Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington.	Warrington 62996
Stretton	*Mrs. K. Newstead, 3 Beverley Ave., Appleton, Warrington.	Warrington 64785

RELIEF NURSES

Frodsham	Mrs. E. E. Sellers, 17 Bracken Way, Frodshan, Warrington.	
Grappenhall & Thelwall	Mrs. M. Craven, 30 Kildonan Road, Grappenhall, Warrington	Warrington 61725
	Mrs. J. Lightfoot, 22 Mairesfield Avenue, Grappenhall, Warrington	Warrington 63299
	Mrs. J. A. Pownall, 8 Newlands Rd., Stockton Heath, Warrington	Warrington 63905
Runcorn	Mrs. E. L. Hartwell, 28 Alexandra Grove, Runcorn.	Runcorn 4628

COUNTY MIDWIVES

Grappenhall	Miss E. Tinker, 30 Georges Crescent, Grappenhall, Warrington.	Warrington 61975
	Mrs. H. Grace, 41 Springfield Ave., Grappenhall, Warrington.	Warrington 62301
Runcorn	Miss E. M. Grice, 40 Norman Road, Runcorn	Runcorn 3602
	Miss P. Noon, 73 Oxford Road, Runcorn.	Runcorn 2881
	Mrs. P. Farrell, 134 Heath Road South, Weston	Runcorn 3707
	Mrs. M. Wood, 14 St. Mary's Road, Halton, Runcorn.	Runcorn 3981
	Miss N. A. I. Turner, 60 Roland Avenue, Runcorn.	Runcorn 5459
Stockton Heath	Mrs. J. M. Arthur, 37 West Avenue, Stockton Heath, Warrington.	Warrington 61674

* Indicates District Nurse only.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES AND CLINICS

Ministry and Proprietary Foods are sold at each of the Child Welfare Clinic Sessions listed below. In addition, Ministry Foods only are available at the following Centres:

Post Office, Appleton.
Post Office, Manley.
Post Office, Norley

Post Office, Sutton Weaver.
Mrs. Whalley's Shop, Russell Road,
Weston Point

FRODSHAM C.W.C., The Rock, Frodsham.

Health Visitor—Miss J. Harper. Tel.: Frodsham 2388.

Dentist—Miss D. Coates. Tel.: Frodsham 2388.

Dental Clinic	—	
Child Welfare Clinic	—	2nd and 4th Tuesdays, p.m.
Eye Clinic	—	2nd and 4th Wednesdays, a.m.
Screening Clinic	—	1st and 3rd Fridays, p.m.
Young Children's Clinic	—	1st and 3rd Wednesdays, p.m.
Ante-Natal Clinic	—	Thursdays, a.m.
Handicapped Persons Club	—	1st and 3rd Thursdays, p.m.
Preparation Class	—	Wednesdays, p.m.
Immunisation Clinic	—	4th Fridays, a.m.

GRAPPENHALL C.W.C., Springfield Avenue, Grappenhall

Health Visitor—Miss M. Lea. Tel.: Warrington 61488.

Dentist—Mr. T. P. Dykes. Tel.: Warrington 61489.

Ante-Natal Clinic	—	Wednesdays p.m.
Cervical Cytology Clinic	—	3rd Tuesdays a.m. (by arrangement).
Immunisation Clinic	—	1st Fridays, p.m.
Child Welfare Clinic	—	Thursdays, p.m.
Preparation Class	—	Alternate Wednesdays, p.m.
Young Childrens' Clinic	—	4th Fridays, a.m.
Screening Clinic	—	2nd and 4th Fridays, p.m.
Eye Clinic	—	3rd Wednesdays, a.m.
Dental Clinic	—	

HELSEBY Clinic, Methodist Church Hall, Helsby.

Health Visitor—Mrs. V. E. Fletcher.

Child Welfare Clinic	—	1st and 3rd Tuesdays, p.m.
Immunisation Clinic	—	Fridays, 4th, p.m.

KINGSLEY Clinic, Hurst Methodist Church Hall, Kingsley.

Health Visitor—Miss D. R. Heelis

Child Welfare Clinic	—	2nd Wednesdays p.m.
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RUNCORN C.W.C., 34 Halton Road, Runcorn

Health Visitors—Miss E. O'Connor; Miss C. V. Kilcullen. Tel.: Runcorn 2871/2.

Child Welfare Clinic	—	Wednesdays a.m. and p.m.
Ante-Natal Clinic	—	Thursdays, a.m.
Screening Clinic	—	4th Tuesdays, p.m.
Immunisation Clinic	—	2nd Fridays, p.m.

RUNCORN C.W.C., Thorn Road, Grange N.U., Runcorn.
Hcalth Visitors—Mrs. D. Govan, Miss M. R. Sandford. Tel.: Runcorn 4495
Dentist—Miss L. Fernley. Tel.: Runcorn 4496.

- Dental Clinic —
- Screening Clinic — 2nd Mondays, p.m.
- Child Welfare Clinic — Thursdays, p.m.
- Young Children's Clinic — 3rd Fridays a.m.
- Preparation Class — Fridays, p.m.
- Eye Clinic — Tuesdays, p.m.
- Cervical Cytology Clinic — 4th Tuesdays (by arrangement).

STOCKTON HEATH C.W.C., 65 Whitefield Road, Stockton Heath.
Health Visitors—Miss M. Newbold, Mrs. M. G. McManamin.
 Tel.: Warrington 62025
Dentist—Miss P. Gass. Tel.: Warrington 62025.

- Dental Clinic —
- Child Welfare Clinic — Mondays, p.m.
- Young Children's Clinic — 1st Friday, a.m.
- Screening Clinic — as required.
- Eye Clinic — 4th Tuesdays, p.m.
- Preparation Class — Fridays, p.m.
- Immunisation Clinic — 3rd Fridays, a.m.
- Handicapped Persons' Club — 1st, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, p.m.

WESTON POINT CLINIC, Russell Road Hall, Weston Point.
Health Visitor—Miss A. Davies
 Child Welfare Clinic — 1st and 3rd Mondays, p.m.

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS

The tables below give details of the attendances and Welfare Food Sales at the various Child Welfare Clinics held in the Division.

As can be seen, there is a fall in the use of these facilities and I await with interest the current review of the Child Welfare Service by the County Medical Officer. This is taking place at a particularly appropriate time in view of the recent publication of the Sheldon Report on the Future Development of Child Welfare Centres.

	NEW CASES		TOTAL ATTENDANCES					
	0—1 year		0—1 year		1—2 years		2—5 years	
	1966	1967	1966	1967	1966	1967	1966	1967
Frodsham	160	113	1,031	706	154	148	92	86
Grappenhall	160	168	1,826	1,865	284	209	187	158
Helsby	79	96	518	883	127	63	58	18
Kingsley	18	22	172	101	35	38	10	15
Runcorn	313	283	2,480	1,974	382	236	383	306
Runcorn—Grange N.U.	172	151	1,166	1,177	157	234	306	294
Stockton Heath	198	203	1,894	1,705	236	186	104	106
Weston Point	58	91	359	469	41	34	51	10
TOTALS	1,158	1,127	9,446	8,880	1,416	1,148	1,191	993

WELFARE FOODS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Value of Sales Proprietary Foods sold only at Clinics</i>	<i>National Dried Milk (tins)</i>	<i>Orange Juice (bottles)</i>	<i>Cod Liver Oil (bottles)</i>	<i>A. & D. Tablets (packets)</i>
1967	£2,383	5,597	13,659	820	1,480
1966	£2,531	8,831	14,247	832	1,456
1965	£2,235	11,478	14,575	931	1,554
1964	£1,629	13,614	12,513	1,085	1,584

DAY NURSERY, OKELL STREET- RUNCORN

<i>Average Daily Attendance</i>	<i>Average No. Attending</i>		<i>Total Attendances</i>	
	<i>0—2 years</i>	<i>2—5 years</i>	<i>0—2 years</i>	<i>2—5 years</i>
32	9	23	2,154	5,503

The Nursery is open from 7.45 a.m. to 5.0 p.m. Monday to Friday.

The Nursery is a Training Nursery and two Nursery Students are completing their two years training for their N.N.E.B. examinations, one on her first year, and the other completing her second year.

The number of children on the register is 41, and of these, 31 are priority cases, as follows:—

- 6 children of unmarried mothers;
- 4 children of wives separated from husbands;
- 4 children of mothers who are ill;
- 3 children mentally handicapped;
- 11 children of school teachers;
- 3 children of nurses.

During the year there were a larger number of short stay cases in the Nursery on account of mothers' confinements, mothers' illness and unsettled home conditions.

CERVICAL SMEAR CLINICS

There was a disappointing attendance at these clinics. From our records it is evident that the women in the groups which are at greatest risk are not those who attend most frequently. It is only by a personal approach that they can be persuaded to attend either the clinic or their own doctor for this test, and this must remain an important challenge to the Health Visitors, District Nurses and Midwives.

	<i>Grappenhall Clinic</i>		<i>Grange Clinic, Runcorn</i>	
	1966	1967	1966	1967
No. of Sessions held	12	19	20	23
No. of new patients who attended	299	302	418	417
Result of examination:—				
(a) Nothing abnormal	298	301	415	414
(b) For further investigation	1	1	3	3
(c) No. in (b) found positive	—	1	2	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The tables below give details of the various infectious diseases notified in each council area within the division during 1966 and 1967.

	1966		1967	
	RUNCORN URBAN	RUNCORN RURAL	RUNCORN URBAN	RUNCORN RURAL
Dysentery	1	—	—	1
Measles	394	502	304	486
Pneumonia Influenzal	—	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever	46	30	49	31
Respiratory Tuberculosis	3	3	3	5
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	—	19	14	17
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—
Encaphalitis	—	—	1	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	2	—	1
Pneumonia, Influenzal and acute Lobar	—	1	—	—

Tuberculosis

Details are given below of the numbers of persons on the Tuberculosis Register. During 1968 it is hoped to complete a review of this Register.

	RUNCORN URBAN		RUNCORN RURAL	
	<i>R.</i>	<i>N.R.</i>	<i>R.</i>	<i>N.R.</i>
New cases notified (including transfers)....	3	—	5	1
Deaths....	—	—	—	—
Recovered	4	—	1	—
Other Removals from Register (left District etc.)	—	—	—	—
No. on Register at the end of 1966	99	5	150	36
No. on Register at the end of 1967	98	5	154	37

R—Respiratory.

N.R.—Non-Respiratory.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

A very satisfactory level of immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis has been maintained.

The vaccination and immunisation programme for the Division has now been transferred to the County Council Computer. The scheme became operative on the 1st February, 1967, the first children being sent appointments to attend immunisation clinics. Towards the end of the year most of the General Practitioners own immunisation sessions were brought on to the computer and appointments sent out for their patients.

Briefly the scheme operates as follows:—

The Health Visitor requests the consent of the parents to their child's immunisation. At the same time they indicate whether they wish the procedure to be carried out by their General Practitioner at his surgery or at a County Council clinic. This information is then fed into the computer and when the child is three months old and subsequently as required, the computer prints an appointment card which is sent to the parent. At the same time, a detailed list is sent to the General Practitioner or Clinic Doctor indicating the names of the children called for immunisation and giving details of the procedure to be carried out.

Children who fail to attend are automatically sent up to three reminders, following which, details of the child are sent to the Divisional Medical Office in order that the Health Visitor can visit the family to discuss the matter with the parent.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Smallpox Vaccination

	Primary		Booster	
	1966	1967	1966	1967
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough and Tetanus	1,181	1,241	388	723
Diphtheria/Tetanus	8	7	2,047	1,606
Tetanus	63	69	46	78
Poliomyelitis—Sabin Vaccine	1,310	1,264	1,627	1,487
—Salk Vaccine...	19	—	—	—
Smallpox—				
Under 1 year	120	43	—	—
1—5 years	289	406	10	12
School Children...	51	67	27	20
TOTALS	3,041	3,097	4,145	3,926

Total No. of Protective Procedures carried out for Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Polio and Smallpox

	Total by G.P's.	Total by Local Health Authority
1966	3,005	4,181
1967	2,927	4,096

B.C.G. VACCINATION

For the first time since 1962 there was a drop in the percentage of parents consenting. This is a matter which will receive special attention in 1968, and it is pleasing to note that the consent rate so far this year is running at 89 per cent.

It will be noted that there is a reduction in the figure shown of the number of children eligible in 1967. The reason for this is the fact that it was not possible to arrange the usual session at the Helsby Grammar Schools during the December quarter, and it had to be held over until early in the new year.

Year	Children Eligible	Percentage of Parents consenting	Percentage Abs. for Tests	Percentage Tuberculin Positive	Percentage Tuberculin Neg. & Vacc
1962	651	80	3	21	79
1963	854	83	6	19	81
1964	798	83	15	17	83
1965	879	88	12	10	90
1966	845	89	6	12	88
1967	656	74	4	13	87

SERVICES FOR THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Social and Handicraft sessions for the physically handicapped are organised by the W.R.V.S. in Frodsham and Stockton Heath and I would like to express my appreciation for the help which they so freely give.

In order that the Local Authority services can fit into a continuous spectrum of service for the physically handicapped closely linked with Hospitals and General Practitioners, there is a need to widen the scope of the facilities we offer.

Our particular tasks lie in the long term rehabilitation of the patient with the aim of re-integrating him fully into society. Where this is not possible, our objectives should be to play a major part in the maintenance of maximum function and independence of the chronically handicapped, whilst at the same time, providing facilities to make life more interesting and fruitful—hence I hope to see developed individual and group occupational therapy, social and cultural activities, hydrotherapy and work therapy. At the same time the Health Visitors, by their knowledge of the family, will be in a position, in co-operation with the family doctor, to help in resolving the emotional problems and strains in the family relationships which frequently arise as a consequence of a person becoming physically handicapped.

One can extend this concept to include disabled elderly persons in parts of the rehabilitation programme and also carefully selected patients who are recovering from a mental illness. There is also a need to develop, in co-operation with the hospital services, special Social Clubs and other activities for the mentally ill.

Car Badges for the Disabled Drivers

Persons who are seriously handicapped and can only walk a very limited distance are eligible to receive on application, two stick-on car badges identifying them as physically handicapped. This scheme was introduced by the Ministry of Health in an effort to assist such drivers to receive extra consideration when parking, but it must be remembered that possession of the badges does not confirm any legal rights whatsoever.

Three applications were received during the year.

Adaptations to Property

The undermentioned adaptations to property have been carried out during 1967, and I would like here to express my appreciation to the District Architect who has always given enthusiastic advice and assistance in the design and execution of these alterations.

The policy of the Divisional Health Committee on these alterations has been that where the alteration is to a privately owned property, the income of the household, together with the expected increase in value of the house are taken into consideration in fixing any contribution or loan which may be made towards the cost of the alterations.

<i>Adaptations, etc.</i>				<i>Approx. cost</i>		
				£	s.	d.
(1) Provision of additional handrails	....	....	....	8	17	0
(2) Conversion of shed into toilet	....	....	....	23	12	0
(3) Provision of Bath aid	....	....	....	8	17	0
(4) Provision of extra handrails to staircase	....	....	....	9	15	0
(5) Provision of handrails	....	....	....	9	8	0
(6) Resiting of sink, drainer and cupboard	....	....	....	16	0	0
(7) Provision of "U" shaped bracket, chain with welded rings and three-position type hand piece fitted to ceiling joists	....	....	....	12	10	0
(8) Provision of gangway from back door to outside toilet and fixing W.C. basin at a higher level....	....	....	....	27	0	0
(9) Provision of bath stool with extended seat	....	....	....	10	10	0
(10) Construction of ramp and fixing Invalid lifting-gear track to ceiling	....	....	....	25	0	0
(11) Provision of back-door step	....	....	....	9	10	0
(12) Provision of an intermediate tiled step to the front door	....	....	....	11	5	0
(13) Provision of two handrails	....	....	....	6	5	0
(14) Provision of 4 ramps and handrails	....	....	....	28	0	0
(15) Provision of downstairs toilet	....	....	....	95	0	0
(16) Provision of bath seat and C.P. grip rail	....	....	....	14	5	0
(17) Provision of ramp	....	....	....	13	5	0

Care and After-Care

Nursing equipment and aids for the sick and handicapped are available on loan, free of charge, from the Divisional Medical Office providing a Doctor or some other suitably qualified person states that the items are required.

A total of 226 items were loaned to 165 patients during the year. In addition, 9,400 hospital underpads were issued to patients by District Nurses.

Convalescent Treatment

Six patients were sent for convalescent treatment during 1967.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

Number of Domestic Helps employed at end of year:—

(a) Whole-time—Nil; (b) part-time—102; (c) equivalent whole-time of (b)—31.

Classification of cases and hours worked:—

	1966		1967	
	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Hours worked</i>	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Hours worked</i>
Aged and Infirm ...	287	43,532	317	47,526
Others	71	8,604	89	14,362
Confinements	69	1,980	63	1,890

	1966	1967
Contributions from cases	£3,324	£3,809

During 1967 there was an increase of 10 per cent in the number of cases and an 18 per cent increase in the hours provided, compared with the previous year. The bulk of the additional hours was given to the over 65 age group, and to cases of persons under 65 years of age discharged from hospital after major operations.

Many elderly and infirm people can, with this help, continue to live in their own homes, a fact which gives them added happiness and saves the community the considerable costs of providing the residential accommodation they would otherwise require.

The “Good Neighbour” Scheme was launched during 1967 and operated quite successfully in several carefully selected cases.

CHIROPODY SERVICE

There was little significant change in the demand for the service, details of which are given below:—

	<i>Over 65</i>				<i>Physically Handicapped</i>			
	<i>No. of Patients</i>		<i>No. of Treatments</i>		<i>No. of Patients</i>		<i>No. of Treatments</i>	
	1966	1967	1966	1967	1966	1967	1966	1967
Chiropodist's Surgery	386	440	2,425	2,382	—	—	—	—
Home of Patients	367	356	1,724	1,784	6	7	61	58

	1966	1967
No. of cases in which County Council paid full fees	650	687
No. of cases in which County Council paid half fees	103	116

SERVICES FOR THE MENTALLY SUB-NORMAL

Until the Junior and Adult Training Centres are built in Runcorn in 1972, mentally sub-normal adults and children are catered for at Northwich and I have pleasure in giving below the Supervisor's and Superintendent's reports for these Centres. There is a particular need for the development of youth club facilities for the mentally sub-normal, and I hope progress can be made in 1968 in establishing such a Club in the Division.

Junior Training Centre

Mrs. Platt, Supervisor of the Junior Training Centre, reports as follows:—

I can only submit a report covering the period 30th October—31st December, 1967.

At the end of the year there were 77 children on the register:—

	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Special Care Unit	2	6	4	10
Infants	2	7	10	17
Junior 1	1	8	5	13
Junior 2	2	12	8	20
Seniors	1	11	6	17

As a matter of interest, 36 of these children are from the Runcorn Division.

A mobile building was erected in the grounds during the year and serves as a classroom for Junior 2. This building is a great asset as the Main Hall can now be used by all classes as required.

The work of the Centre is devoted to enabling the children to progress as far as their limitations will allow. The approach to 3R work continues throughout whilst the children enjoy relaxation in music and movement, art and constructive play. Emphasis is paid to the development of good social behaviour by the children.

The usual Christmas celebrations were held and enjoyed by participants and spectators alike.

Girls from Hartford Secondary Modern School attend three mornings per week as part of their Social Studies programme and are very helpful. Our girls have enjoyed the pleasure of physical education at their school each Wednesday afternoon.

ADULT TRAINING CENTRE

Mr. Boocock, Superintendent of the Adult Training Centre, reports as follows:—

The following table shows the number of trainees, which include 9 from Runcorn and 10 from Wrenbury Hall, in relation to staff:

		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mrs. Smith ....	....	—	11	11
Mrs. Duffy ....	....	9	5	14
Mr. Wilson ....	....	11	3	14
Mr. Simpson ....	....	14	4	18
Miss Birtwistle ....	....	—	10	10
		—	—	—
Totals		34	33	67
		—	—	—

During the past year continued progress has been maintained in the social and work training programme at the Northwich Adult Training Centre. In the field of domestic and general housework skills, the adaptation of a small room into a flat has proved a great success.

Whilst social and work activities continue to progress together, physical education is by no means neglected. P.E. sessions are geared to the trainees capabilities to enable them to gain the maximum benefits both physically and educationally, i.e. spatial judgement, perception and anticipation.

At all times trainees are encouraged in speech and to express their own particular viewpoint in all subjects.

The work training programme encompasses a wide variety of skills, each with a definite value. Craft activities include woodwork, upholstery and decorative wire manipulation. Industrial contract work is also executed by trainees—such work provides an identification with industry and helps to infuse trainees with a sense of community. The standard of work in all operations is high and output in the assembly of electrical components has increased well beyond initial expectations

There is integration of the sexes in most activities and the value of this is reflected in improved social behaviour.

December saw the event of the annual Xmas Party and everyone, without exception, thoroughly enjoyed the festivities.

